United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NR Listed: 2-11-04

tional Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property	
historic name Cottage Courts Historic District other names/site number Cottage Motel	
2. Location	
	ublication icinity 71901
3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this I nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic aces and meets the procedural and professional requirements set for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.) Signature of certifying official/Title Arkansas Historic Preservation Program State or Federal agency and bureau In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See Continuation sheet for additional	
comments.)	
Signature of certifying official/Title Date	
State or Federal agency and bureau	
4. National Park Service Certification 1. Durable certific that the property is: Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
Thereby certify that the property is: entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet determined not eligible for the National Register. removed from the National Register. other. (explain:)	Date of Medicili
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Cottage Courts Historic District Name of Property	Garland County, Arkansas County and State		
5. Classification	County and state		
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply) Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources (Do not include previously lis		
✓ private✓ public-local✓ district	Contributing	Noncontributing	
public-State site	2	0 buildings	•
public-Federal structure	0	0 sites	
☐ object	0	0 structures	3
	0	0 objects	
	2	0 Total	
Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)	Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) Number of Contributing resources previou in the National Register		
Arkansas Highway and Transportation Era Architecture, 1910 - 1965	N/A		
6. Function or Use			
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (Enter categories from instruc	tions)	
DOMESTIC: Hotel	DOMESTIC: Hotel		
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
7. Description			
Architectural Classification	Materials		
(Enter categories from instructions) OTHER: Ranch			
O I I LOS A MAINER	walls BRICK		
	roof ASPHALT		_
	other		

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Cottage Courts Historic District Name of Property	Garland County, Arkansas County and State		
8. Statement of Significance			
plicable National Register Criteria sk "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)	Levels of Significance (local, state, national) LOCAL		
A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions) TRANSPORTATION ARCHITECTURE		
B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.	ANCIPLECTORE		
C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses			
high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.	Period of Significance c.1950-1954		
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.			
Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)	Significant Dates c. 1950		
Property is: A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.			
B removed from its original location.	Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked) N/A		
 C. birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance. D a cemetery. 	Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked) N/A		
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.			
F a commemorative property	Architect/Builder		
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.	N/A		
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)			
9. Major Bibliographical References			
Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one of	or more communition sheets.)		
Previous documentation on file (NPS): preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested previously listed in the National Register Previously determined eligible by the National Register designated a National Historic Landmark recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # recorded by Historic American Engineering	Primary location of additional data: State Historic Preservation Office Other State Agency Federal Agency Local Government University Other Name of repository: Garland County Historical Society		
Record #			

Cottage Courts Historic District	Garland County, Arkansas	
Name of Property	County and State	
10. Geographical Data		
Acreage of Property less than one		
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)		
1 15 495101 3820053	ن ن	
Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing	
2	4	
	See continuation sheet	
Verbal Boundary Description		
S28 T2S R19W, Block 148, Lot 1, part of Lot 2, Hot Springs Reservati	Dri.	
Boundary Justification		
The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated. 11. Form Prepared By	i with Cottage Courts.	
11. Form Prepared by		
name/title Bill Wiedower		
organization AHPP	date September 19, 2003	
street & number 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street	telephone 501/324-9880	
city or town Little Rock	state Arkansas zip code 72201	
Additional Documentation		
Submit the following items with the completed form:		
Continuation Sheets		
Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property		
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large	acreage or numerous resources.	
Photographs		
Representative black and white photographs of the property.		
Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)		
Property Owner		
(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)		
name Efran Canlas		
street & number 609 Park Avenue	telephone 501/624-5482	
city or town Hot Springs	state Arkansas zip code 71901	

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

Cottage Courts Historic Dist	rict

Name of Property

Garland County, Arkansas

County and State

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

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Summary

The Cottage Motel, originally known as Cottage Courts, was built at 603 Park Avenue circa 1950, near the end of the flurry of tourist court construction along Park Avenue. It has little in common with the majority of the tourist court type buildings. Instead, it is one of the first "motel" type buildings in Hot Springs. Cottage Courts has continually served as tourist lodging since its construction.

Elaboration

Cottage Courts consists of two buildings. The larger of the two buildings contains twelve guest rooms. The smaller building contains three guest rooms and the owner's/manager's apartment. The exterior of each building is brick, with a single door and large steel casement window per each guest unit. The entrances are sheltered by a continuous porch that runs the entire length of each building. The porches are formed by the building's overhanging hipped roof. The porches are supported by wrought iron "vine" posts. The porch supports are probably not original, but there is no indication of what they might have replaced.

The buildings are fairly nondescript, with all of the guest rooms being laid out in the same plan. The fronts of the rooms are all facing the same direction in each building, with each room being the mirror image of its adjacent room. The guest rooms are laid out like modern day motel rooms, with a bedroom at the front and a bathroom at the rear. The bathrooms still have the tile wainscoting and flooring and the tile tub surround. The bathroom has a small steel casement window looking out to the rear of the building.

Other than the addition of window air conditioners inserted into the steel casement windows, Cottage Motel appears almost exactly as it did when it was built as Cottage Court.

Cattoria	Course	Historic	District
Сопасе	COURS	HISTORIC	DISTRICT

Name of Property

Garland County, Arkansas
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'nited States Department of the Interior ational Park Service

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Summary

The Cottage Courts Historic District is being nominated to the National Register under Criterion A with local significance for its association with automobile travel in Arkansas between the years 1910–1965. Cottage Courts is an example of the earliest "motel" type lodging facilities on Park Avenue in Hot Springs, Arkansas. The district consists of the owner's residence/office building containing three guest rooms and a second building housing twelve guest rooms, for a total of two contributing buildings. Cottage Courts has not undergone major alterations and remains virtually intact on both the interior and exterior of the buildings. Therefore, it is also being nominated under Criterion C as an excellent example of a Ranch style motor court.

'aboration

Cottage Courts was one of the later structures built along Park Avenue during the conversion from large residential homes to commercial businesses aimed at automobile travelers. Beginning with the completion of the paved Little Rock-Hot Springs highway (Highway 70) in 1925, Park Avenue being the final stretch into "the Spa City," residents of Hot Springs and Park Avenue saw an opportunity to "make a buck" off the growing automobile traffic the highway guaranteed. In addition to being a convenient overnight stay en route to Dallas, Texas. Hot Springs thrived as a tourist destination. Known primarily for the healing powers of the thermal waters that flowed from its hillsides, Hot Springs also boasted alligator and ostrich farms, a horse-racing track, several theaters, and two amusement parks during its visitation peak. With the growth of automobile traffic, and the expansion of the city of Hot Springs in the 1930s–40s, travelers began looking for convenient and accessible overnight lodging near highways. The high-class downtown hotels could not offer on-site parking for the most part, and carried additional expenses such as porter's fees for baggage handling and charges for clubs and social offerings.

As a result, traveler services, including tourist courts and service stations, began appearing along Park Avenue because of its proximity to Hot Springs' major attractions and entertainment venues. The tourist courts along Park Avenue are generally a conglomeration of widely-circulated tourist court "plan books" and popular architectural styles of the period, with a little of the individual owner's/builder's personality thrown in for good measure.

Tottage Courts, built circa 1950, has no real distinguishing architectural features. The two buildings are signed in the Ranch style of architecture. The design lacks the quaintness and stylistic elements of earlier tourist courts. The court shows an important transition from detached single units to the more modern attached motel layout. The red brick one-story buildings are closer in resemblance to early motels, but maintain the common area in the center of the two buildings that is characteristic of tourist courts.

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Cottage	Counts	Histo	ric	Dist	rict

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Built by Cecil C. Foster and James D. McLain, Cottage Courts first appears in the 1951 City Directory of Hot Springs. Foster and McLain, who built and owned several other tourist courts on Park Avenue during the period, retained ownership of Cottage Courts throughout the decade. By the early-1950s, medical advancements made drugs more readily available for ailments previously treated with thermal baths. Combine this with the rise in popularity of several recreational lakes south of Hot Springs, and tourists began to abandon the courts of Park Avenue. Cottage Courts, however, was able to survive the decline and has continued to serve as tourist lodging for visitors to Hot Springs, perhaps due to its more modern motel-like design. It has retained its original integrity despite the years of use, and serves as an example of the shift away from tourist courts and towards motels as travelers began looking for more amenities in their lodging options.

Statement of Significance

The virtually unaltered condition of Cottage Courts and the transitional design between tourist court and motel make the district eligible for National Register nomination under Criterion C as an excellent example of a Ranch style motor court. It is also being nominated under Criterion A with local significance for its association with automobile travel in Hot Springs. The nomination is being submitted under the multiple property listing "Arkansas Highway and Transportation Era Architecture, 1910-1965" in conjunction with the historic context "Arkansas Highway History and Architecture, 1910-1965."

Cottage Courts Historic District	
Name of Property	

Garland County, Arkansas

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Garland County Tax Records, 1938 - 1953, 2000 - 2001.

Interview with Jill Curran, Director, Encyclopedia of Arkansas, August 2003.

Interview with Efran Canlas, owner of Cottage Motel, September 9, 2003.

'nterview with Bobbie Jones McLean, Executive Director, Garland County Historical Society, August 2003.

Hot Springs City Directory, 1930, 1938, 1940, 1942, 1944, 1948, 1951, 1953, 1955.

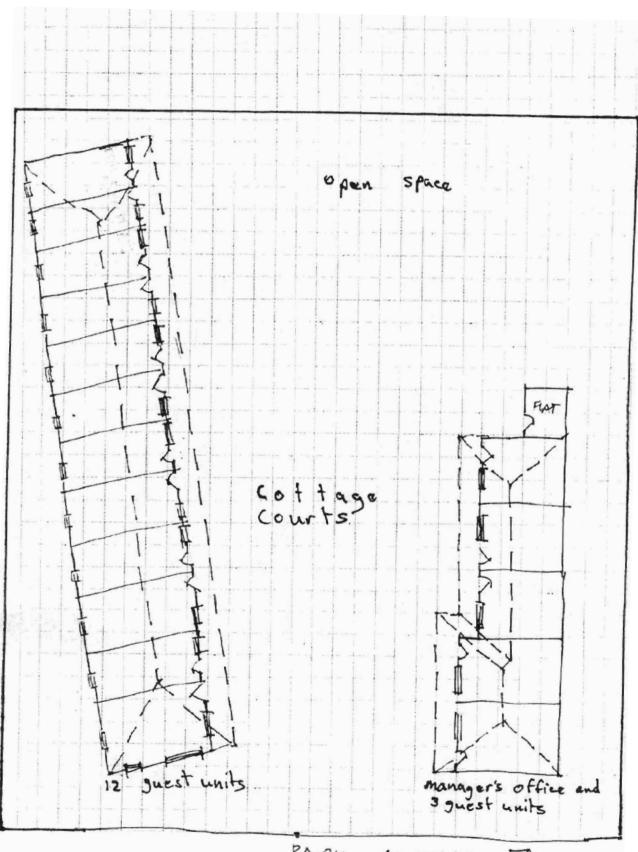
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Liebs, Chester H. Main Street to Miracle Mile: American Roadside Architecture. Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1985.

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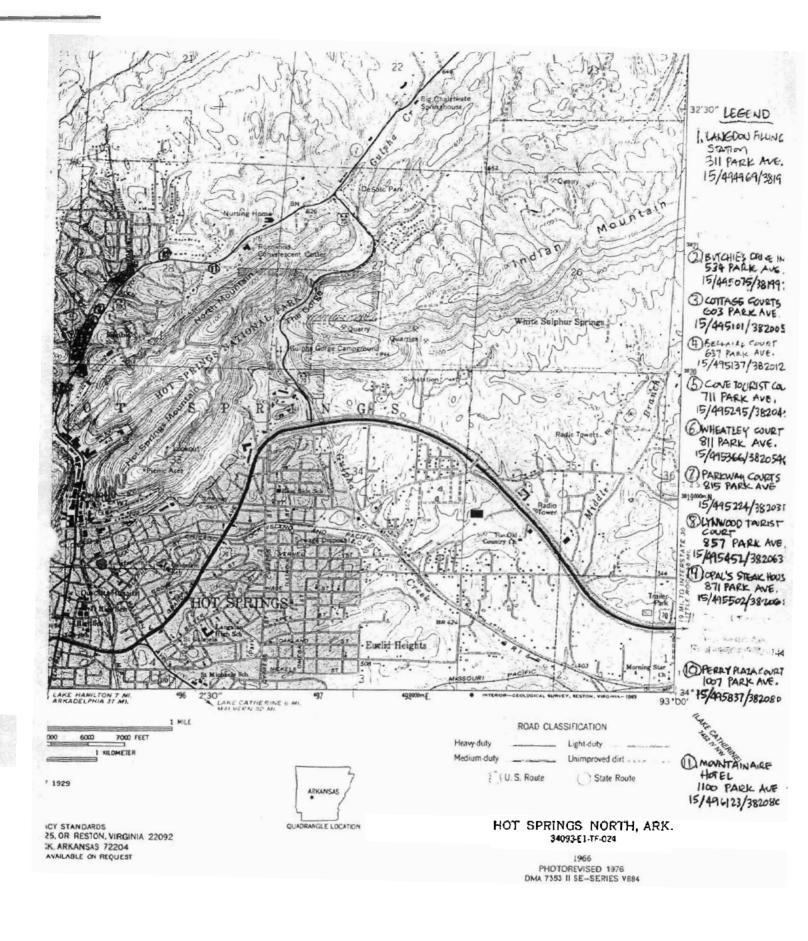
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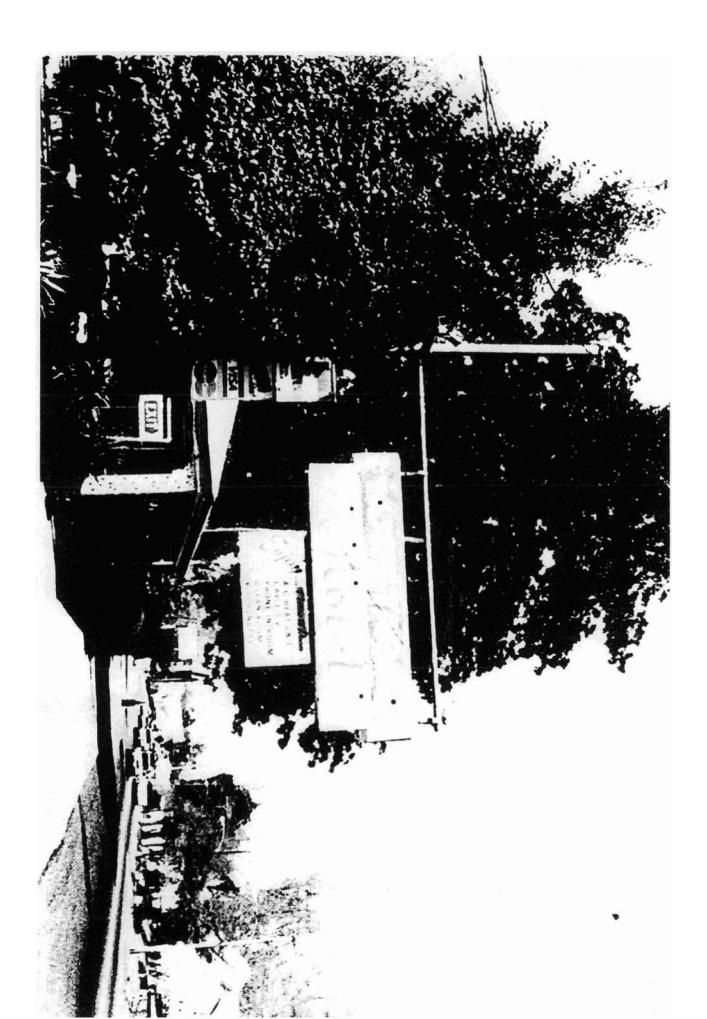
Sanborn Insurance Company Maps - 1948, 1950.



PARK AVENUE

North





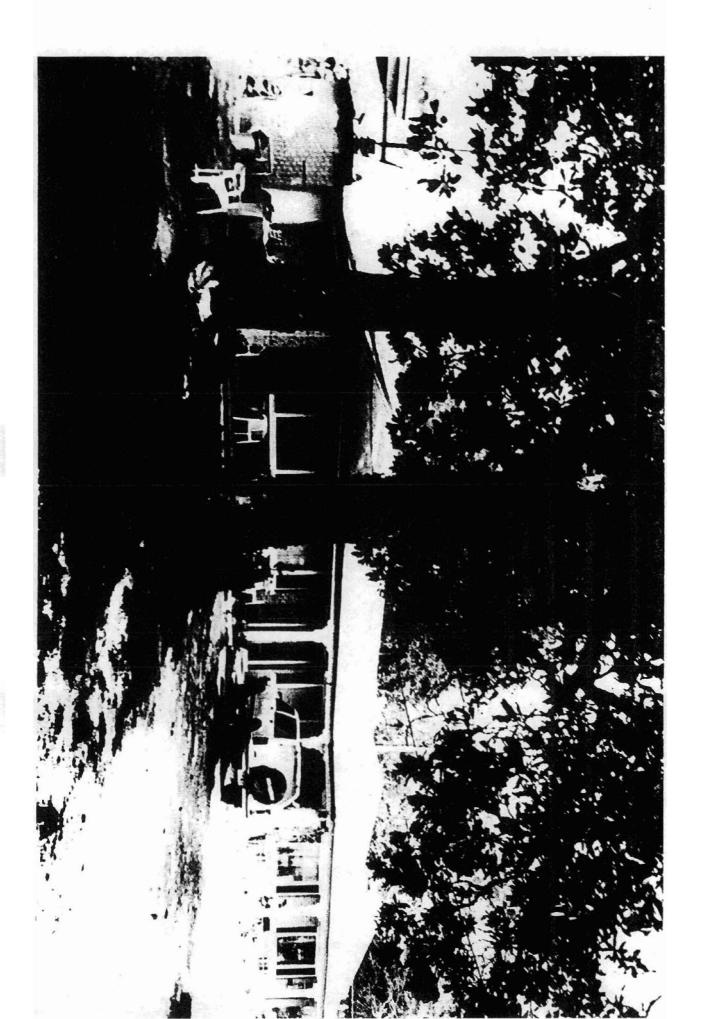
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